2. राज्य सरकारों से 1000 मीटर से अधिक ऊंचाई पर पहाड़ियों और पर्वतों पर हरे वृक्षों की कटाई पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने पर विचार करने को कहा गया है ।

3. वनों के संरक्षण में ग्रामीण समुदायों को भी भोगाधिकार के आधार पर शामिल करने के सम्बन्ध में राज्यों को दिशा-निर्देश जारी किये गए हैं ।

4. जी० बी० पन्त हिमालयी पर्यावरण और विकास संस्थान अनुसंधान और विकास अध्ययनों में लगा हुआ है ।

(घ) खनन परियोजनाओं के लिए वन भूमि के प्रयोग की अनुमति वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के उपबन्धों के तहत केन्द्रीय सरकार की पूर्वानुमति से ही दी जाती है । केन्द्र सरकार ने जिन वन क्षेत्रों में खनन के लिए अनुमति दी है, वे संलग्न विवरण में दिए गए हैं ।

विवरण

राज्य का नाम	दिया गया वन क्षेत्र (हैक्टेयर में) (1980 से)
आन्ध्र प्रदेश	4371.42
असम	0.00
बिहार	717.85
गोवा	0.00
गुजरात	107.38
हरियाणा	0.00
हिमाचल प्रदेश	0.00
जम्मू एवं कश्मीर	0.00
कर्नाटक	13.42
केरल	0.00
मध्य प्रदेश	4560.04
महाराष्ट्र	22.65
मणिपुर	0.00
मेघालय	0.00
उड़ीसा	1688.18
पंजाब	0.00
राजस्थान	1.37
सिक्किम	0.00
तमिलनाडु	111.82
त्रिपुरा	0.00
उत्तर प्रदेश	1684.14
पश्चिम बंगाल	0.00
अण्डमान एवं निकोबार द्वीपसमूह	8.00
दादरा एवं नागर हवेली	0.00
दमन एवं दीव	0.00
अरुणाचल प्रदेश	0.00
कुल	13286.27

Audit of Industrial Units

835. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have notified the systems of compulsory audit for industrial units ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to make the State Pollution Control Boards more effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Every person carrying on an industry operation or process requiring consent under Section 25 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, or under Section 21 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 or both or authorisation under the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989, shall submit an Environmental Audit Report for the financial year ending the 31st March in the prescribed form to the concerned State Pollution Control Board on or before the 15th day of May every year beginning 1993.

(c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests have already requested the State Governments to reconstitute the respective State Pollution Control Boards with greater scientific input, in order to make them more effective. The State Boards are also being strengthened through financial and technical assistance from the Central Government, for greater effectiveness.

Ecomark Label for Products

836. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the object behind issuing the 'Ecomark label' for products ;

(b) the criteria for issuing such labels ; and

(c) the response of the producers so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The objective behind issuing the 'Ecomark label' is to encourage the manufacture, use and disposal of products in a way that significantly reduces the harm that would otherwise be caused to the environment. Such "Environment Friendly" products will carry an 'Ecomark' label.

(b) The parameters to be considered while determining the criteria for issuing an 'Ecomark' are :—

(i) Production process including source of raw material ;

(ii) Case of natural resources ;

(iii) Likely impact on the environment ;

(iv) Energy Conservation in the production of the product ;

(v) Disposal of the product and it's container ;

(vi) Effect and extent of waste arising from the production process ;

(vii) Utilisation of waste and recycled materials ;

(viii) Suitability for recycling or packaging ; and

(ix) Biodegradability.

(c) The response of the producers has been good. Representatives of industrial associations and non-Governmental organisations are associated with the deliberations of the Technical Committees and the Steering Committee of the scheme. Comments on the draft criteria notified in specific cases, have also been received from the manufacturers.

Destruction of Rhino Horns in Assam

837. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the PIONEER dated March 23, 1992, to the effect that five hundred and odd pieces of Rhino-horn stored in Assam are likely to be burnt down soon ;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto, especially for preventing the loss of the scarce commodity and poaching of the rare single-horned Rhinos ; and

(c) whether the population of the Rhinos has been dwindling fast ; if so, the population of Rhinos as on 1st January, 1990, 1991 and 1992 and the latest figures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Internal as well as international trade in Rhino horns is banned. There is, therefore, no legal way for disposal of Rhino horns except by way of their destruction. However, Central Government have not received any advice from the Government of Assam that they plan to burn their stocks of Rhino-horns. To check poaching of Rhinos, assistance is provided to the States to develop anti-poaching capabilities in Rhino habitats. Besides, penalties have been made stiffer under the